

Message Text

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ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 EA-07 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 IO-11 ARA-06 /089 W
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P R 131133Z JAN 76

FM AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 7705

INFO ALL OAU CAPITALS 019

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

USLO PEKING

C O N F I D E N T I A L ADDIS ABABA 0431

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR OAU AO

SUBJECT: OAU MEETING ADJOURNS WITHOUT RESULT

1. WEARY AND DISCOURAGED OAU REPS ARE LEAVING ADDIS. EMBASSY'S LOCAL SOURCES ARE DIFFICULT TO REACH (MANY ARE SLEEPING AFTER ALL-NIGHT SESSION), BUT WE WILL REPORT WHAT WE CAN. SOBER PROGNOSSES WILL HAVE TO AWAIT COOLING OF TEMPERS. AT AIRPORT WHILE SEEING OFF CONG DIGGS, AMB AND POL COUNSELOR HAD DISCUSSION WITH OAU ASST SEC GEN FOR POLITICAL AFFAIRS PETER ONU. ONU (WHO IS NIGERIAN) REPRESENTS STRONG MPLA PARTISANS AND IS OBVIOUSLY LOOKING FOR SCAPEGOATS.

2. ONU OPENLY AND EXPLICITLY EXHIBITS DOUBLE-STANDARD APPLIED TO SOVS AND AMERICANS. HE THINKS IT IMPROPER THAT USG SENT ASST SECY SCHAUFLE TO WEST AFRICAN COUNTRIES BEFORE OAU, WHILE SEEING NOTHING WRONG WITH FURIOUS LOBBYING AND VIOLENT TASS PROPAGANDA OF SOVS AND CUBANS DURING OAU MEETING. (THIS CONFIDENTIAL

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LINE OF THOUGHT IS REMINISCENT OF ETEKI'S EARLIER REMARKS TO

AMB, CRITICIZING SECRETARY'S LETTER TO ETEKI ON GROUNDS THAT ANY ARTICULATION OF USG POSITION CONSTITUTES INTERFERENCE.) VIGOROUS REBUTTALS BY AMB AND POL COUNSELOR PRODUCED EXPLICIT ONU STATEMENT THAT SOVIET ACTIONS IN ANGOLA AND DURING OAU MEETING ARE ENTIRELY ACCEPTABLE BECAUSE SOVS HAVE SUPPORTED LIBERATION STRUGGLES, AND AFRICANS KNOW HOW TO HANDLE SOVIET ATTEMPTS AT INFLUENCE ON AF GOVTS. ON OTHER HAND, USG MOTIVATIONS ARE HEAVILY SUSPECT AND USG HOPES FOR DOMINATION OF SOME AFRICAN COUNTRIES. USG COULD, IF IT WISHES, ACHIEVE REMOVAL OF SOUTH AFRICAN FORCES FROM ANGOLA. FAILURE OF OAU TO PLAY USEFUL ROLE IN RESOLVING ANGOLAN PROBLEM IS IN LARGE PART FAULT OF USG.

3. ASKED ABOUT NEXT STEPS, ONU SAID THAT MPLA PARTISANS WOULD SEEK FURTHER AFRICAN RECOGNITIONS OF MPLA/GOA. ONCE SIMPLE MAJORITY ACHIEVED MPLA/GOA COULD AND WOULD BE ADMITTED TO OAU MEMBERSHIP. ONU PRESISTED IN THINKING THIS LIKELY TO HAPPEN SOON. (WE SHOULD THEREFORE CAUTION OUR FRIENDS NOT TO LET THEIR GUARD DOWN NOW THAT OAU SUMMIT HAS ENDED.) ONU BRUSHED ASIDE IMPORTANT QUESTION GAMBIT AS INAPPLICABLE ON QUESTION OF ADMISSION OF NEW MEMBER.

4. ONU SAID "MOST AFRICANS" BELIEVE THERE IS NO POINT IN PLACING MATTER BEFORE UN SECURITY COUNCIL BECAUSE USE OF VETO BY ONE SIDE OR OTHER WOULD SURELY PARALYZE ANY CONSTRUCTIVE MOVE.

5. COMMENT: ONU USUALLY EXHIBITS SOMEWHAT MORE BALANCE THAN THIS, AND MORE WILLINGNESS TO CONCEDE POINTS ON LOGICAL GROUNDS. WE WILL CONTINUE TO KEEP IN TOUCH WITH HIM, AFTER HIS DISCOURAGEMENT AND DISMAY HAVE COOLED. THIS CONVERSATION IS REPORTED BECAUSE IT MAY REPRESENT LINE THAT PRO-MPLA FORCES WILL TAKE--TRYING TO BLAME USG FOR OAU FAILURE. WE ARE GETTING SECOND-HAND REPORTS THAT OTHER AFRICANS ARE ALSO AT WORK PROMOTING SIMILAR VIEWS, INCLUDING MOZAMBIQUANS, NIGERIANS AND TANZANIANS.
HUMMEL

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